

## SBSTA in-session workshop on Agriculture, 3 June

AC representative: Clifford Mahlung

### Intervention

- It is my pleasure to participate in this important workshop on behalf of the Adaptation Committee.
- I am aware that my intervention needs to be limited to just a few minutes, so my messages will be concise.
- As you will be aware, the Adaptation Committee has a **distinct role in the facilitation of adaptation action** across the board.
- It has been established to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention, and Parties affirmed that the AC shall be the **overall advisory body to the COP on adaptation** to the adverse effects of climate change.
- To this end, the AC, through the various modalities including workshops, meetings, expert groups and publications, has actively engaged a wide range of stakeholders, including Parties, the constituted bodies under the Convention, relevant organizations, regional centres and networks to facilitate dialogue on different elements of adaptation action.
- For example:
  - In June last year, at SB 40, we held a meeting in collaboration with the IPCC to explore best ways and means to apply latest science and knowledge from the IPCC;
  - Starting with the workshop on monitoring and evaluation in September 2013, the AC continues to bring various stakeholders to discuss the various topics on adaptation. It has so far also addressed NAPs, including their financing, and available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation.
- **Robust vulnerability and risk assessments** provide a vital step in a sound adaptation cycle, and need to be coordinated across all levels, from local approaches up to the international level.
- On the national level, **National Adaptation Plans are a vehicle very well suited** to drive countries' adaptation efforts. The LEG Chair will talk about this in more detail. The NAP technical guidelines developed by the LEG contain valuable information on assessing climate vulnerabilities and identifying adaptation options at sector, subnational, national and other appropriate levels.
- Coordinated action, including sound **monitoring and evaluation**, as well as strategic **information sharing and learning**, are also key to successful action on the ground, and to enhancing resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

- Enhanced action on adaptation further requires **awareness-raising** at all levels, the establishment of strong **institutional structures** at the national level, and the **allocation of resources**, both technical and financial.
- All this needs to be done with a **long term perspective** in mind. Both the AC and the LEG are undertaking work on various activities related to medium- and long-term adaptation, especially in the context of their respective mandates on supporting **NAPs**.
- I would like to use this opportunity to alert you of an **expert meeting on livelihoods and economic diversification**, a topic very much related to our discussion, to be held in September this year.
  
- In closing, I would like to thank the SBSTA for organizing these in-session workshops that provide an opportunity for various stakeholders to deliberate. The AC, in its convening role, remains open to bringing experts together and enhancing dialogue among all stakeholders on all key aspects of adaptation.

Thank you.